FWIW, we have achieved a new “low” in communication standards—text slang. I must admit, however, that sending or receiving text messages is quick, efficient and to the point. AAMOF, Barack Obama chose to text the announcement of his running mate Joe Biden. BTW, did you happen to notice that the word “text” is now also a verb? Gr8!

We live in a world of acronyms (e.g., ATM, B2B, COB, DBA, FYI, TBA, TGIF), and our industry is a master of the acronym game (e.g., ADP, EPCRS, SPD, ASAP). So it shouldn’t be surprising that the texting world hosts a long list (forever growing) of useful acronyms. Many of them substitute for common phrases and can be quite entertaining. Memorize these timesavers—you never know when they might come in handy!

AAMOF—As a matter of fact
BTDY—Been there, done that
BTW—By the way
EOD—End of discussion
FWIW—For what it’s worth
GAL—Get a life
GJ—Great job
GMTA—Great minds think alike
G2G—Got to go or go to
HAND—Have a nice day
HTH—Hope to (or that) helps
IANAL—I am not a lawyer
IDK—I don’t know
IMHO—I have humble (or honest) opinion
LOL—Laughing out loud
NBD—No big deal
OAP—Old age person or old age pensioner
OMG—Oh my gosh!
ROFL—Rolling on floor laughing
TINSTAFL—There is no such thing as a free lunch
TMI—Too much information
TYVM—Thank you very much
YMMV—Your mileage may vary (I especially like this one, which has the deeper meaning of “you may have a different experience.”)

FWIW

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and sometimes just mutate words into something that vaguely resembles the original words. Chk these out:

CUL8R—see you later
sez—says
dis—this
sum1—someone
dunno—don’t know
thx—thanks
duz—does
UR—your, you are
fav—favorite
w/—with
gr8—great
wut—what
good—great
wd—was
good—good
y—why
G2G—Got to go or good to go
yup—yes
WUT—What
1dr—wonder
2moro—tomorrow
1drfl—wonderful
4get—forget
2day—today

BTW, it’s not just acronyms we have 2 lrn. There’s a whole new language of chat slang that people are just making up as they go along. Just leave out letters, especially vowels, or just spell phonetically (e.g., bcoz: because). This type of slang was originally created to shorten words because users paid per character or had limited text message length. Now, with these limitations all but gone, this slang remains a way of life and continues to evolve in ways that don’t always shorten

Fwiw, as instant messaging, chat and texting are now commonplace, the related lingo is impacting our daily dialog. The lingo has also infiltrated commercials, newspapers, cartoons and even the way we talk to each other. One can’t help but wonder what interoffice and client communication will look like in the not so distant future.

“OMG! The new SPD just arrived. I 1dr wuts changed.”

“I just had a gr8 EPCRS xperienc. IANAL and YMMV, but it wuz NBD 4 me.”

“Your 401(k) st8mt is enclsed. ROFL.”

If U R an OAP or a noob who feels way behind the curve, there’s hope! U can find a whole host of Web sites to hlp u get familiar w/ the new lingo. 2 of my favs are www.lingo2word.com and www.trans8it.com. Both of these sites allow you to enter slang lingo and it will transl8 it to regular English for u – a gr8 way to make sure you understand what those Gen Xers or Gen Yers are really saying to you or about you! And the latter even lets u nter plain English and it will transl8 it to slang 4 u so you can be hip and learn to speak or text in slang. Kewl!

EOD. G2G. HTH. HAND!